

IN THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE CLAIMS

(1) Please cancel claims 1-6, in their entirety, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

(2) Please add the following new claims:

(7). (ADDED): A gauge mounting device for mounting a gauge disposed in an annular gauge housing having a conical or cylindrical body positioned through an aperture in an instrument panel, said gauge mounting device comprising:

- (a) a gripper ring having an outer smooth annular surface and an inner surface having a plurality of gripping teeth radially aligned thereon;
- (b) a gauge bracket having an inner tapering thread profile;
- (c) said gauge bracket having disposed within said thread profile said outer surface of said gripper ring which is freely moveable axially along said thread profile;
- (d) said gauge bracket when positioned about said gauge housing causing said plurality of gripping teeth to become frictionally engaged around said gauge housing preventing further rotation of said gripper ring forming a stationery helix;
- (e) said gauge bracket with rotation causing forward movement

along the said tapering thread profile about said stationary helix formed by said gripper ring causing an increasing frictional force to said gauge housing and an increasing sandwiching force biasing said gauge bracket to said instrument panel.

(8) (ADDED): The gripper ring as claimed in claim 7, wherein said gripper ring is discontinuous and able to move freely axially along said helix of said inner tapering thread profile and able to configure to said inner tapering thread profile.

(9)(ADDED): The gripper ring as claimed in claim 7, wherein said gripper ring is made of a material of thin metal having a spring temper.